

# Deconfining phase transition in pure gauge theories

1. Polyakov loop and *hidden* global symmetries

2.  $Z(3)$  interface tension in  $SU(3)$

Potential for constant  $A_0$

3. Effective model for pure glue

4. “Birdtrack” diagrams

5. Gross-Witten-Wadia transitions at large  $N$  for  $SU(N)$

Polyakov loop and hidden global symmetries

# “Hidden” symmetry

In QCD there is a *local* SU(3) gauge symmetry:

$$A_\mu(x) \rightarrow \frac{1}{-ig} \Omega^\dagger(x) (\partial_\mu - ig A_\mu(x)) \Omega(x)$$

Gauge transformation  $\Omega(x)$  differs at *each*  $x$ .

Subset of local: *global* gauge transf's,  $\Omega(x) = \Omega$ :  $A_\mu(x) \rightarrow \Omega^\dagger A_\mu(x) \Omega$

So what?  $\Omega$  is a SU(3) matrix, so  $\det \Omega = 1$ . Consider

$$\Omega_1 = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2\pi i/3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2\pi i/3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{2\pi i/3} \end{pmatrix} = e^{2\pi i/3} \mathbf{1}$$

$\det \Omega_1 = (e^{2\pi i/3})^3 = 1$ :

$\Omega_1$  is a SU(3) matrix

*But:*  $\Omega_1$  is  $\sim$  to *unit* matrix!

# Global Z(3) symmetry

*Because*  $\Omega_1$  is proportional to unit matrix, gluons invariant:

$$A_\mu(x) \rightarrow \Omega_1^\dagger A_\mu(x) \Omega_1 = e^{-2\pi i/3} A_\mu(x) e^{2\pi i/3} = A_\mu(x)$$

Quarks are *not*, since they pick up a phase

$$q(x) \rightarrow \Omega(x) q(x) ; \Omega_1 q = e^{2\pi i/3} q \neq q$$

There are three such phases: global Z(3) symmetry hidden in SU(3)

$$\Omega_1 = e^{2\pi i/3} \mathbf{1} , \Omega_2 = e^{-2\pi i/3} \mathbf{1} , \Omega_3 = \mathbf{1}$$

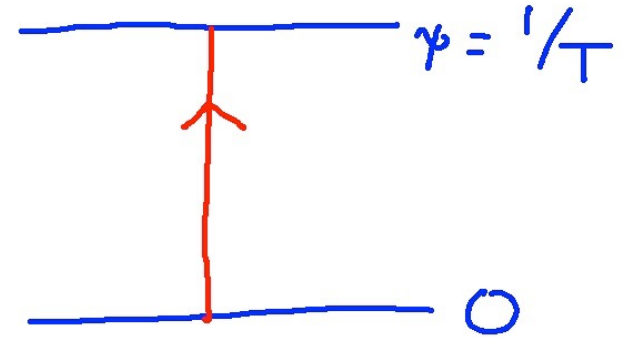
*Without* quarks, *absolute* measure of confinement/deconfinement,  $\sim$  Z(3)

*With* quarks, only *approximate* measure: for QCD, good or bad approximation?

# Lines and Loops

Consider **Wilson line** in (imaginary) time direction:

$$\mathbf{L}(\vec{x}) = \mathcal{P} \exp\left(ig \int_0^{1/T} A_0(\vec{x}, \tau) d\tau\right)$$



Like propagator of heavy quark. Under a gauge transformation,

$$\mathbf{L}(\vec{x}) \rightarrow \Omega^\dagger(\vec{x}, 1/T) \mathbf{L}(\vec{x}) \Omega(\vec{x}, 0)$$

If *only* gluons, can choose gauge transf's periodic *only* up to  $Z(3)$ :

$$\Omega(\vec{x}, 1/T) = e^{2\pi i/3} \Omega(\vec{x}, 0)$$

Trace of Wilson line = **Polyakov-Susskind loop** is gauge invariant up to  $Z(3)$

$$\ell(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr } \mathbf{L} \rightarrow e^{2\pi i/3} \ell(\vec{x})$$

# Confinement as $Z(3)$ domains

Confining vacuum:

*domains* of  $Z(3)$  phases,  
*randomly* disordered.

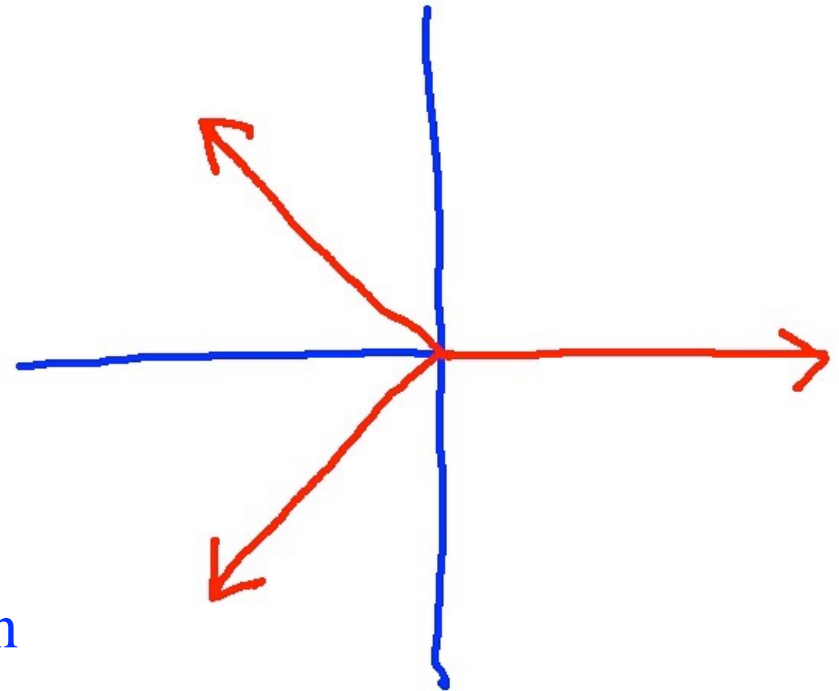
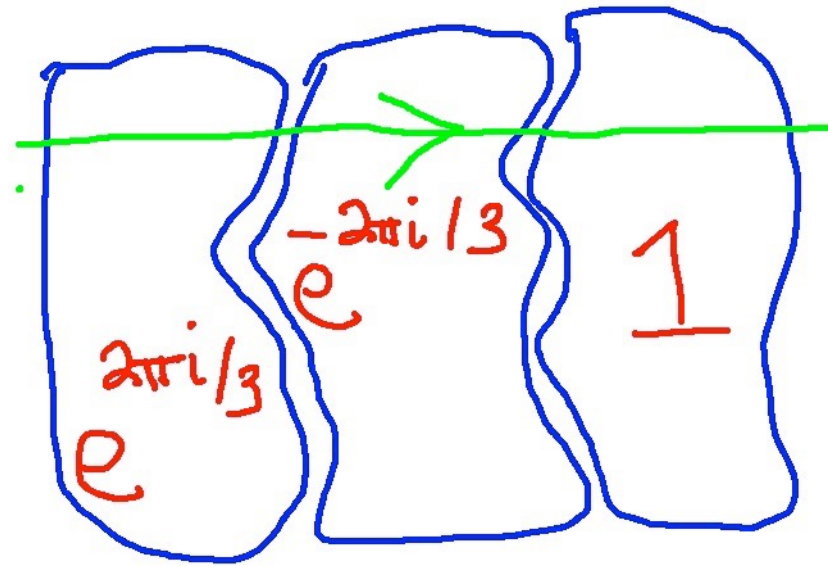
Propagation through domains:

phase is random, averages to zero,

so  $\langle \text{propagator} \rangle \sim \langle \text{loop} \rangle = 0$

$$e^{2\pi i/3} + e^{-2\pi i/3} + 1 = 0$$

Confinement is not infinite (effective) mass  
but phase decoherence,  $\sim$  Anderson localization

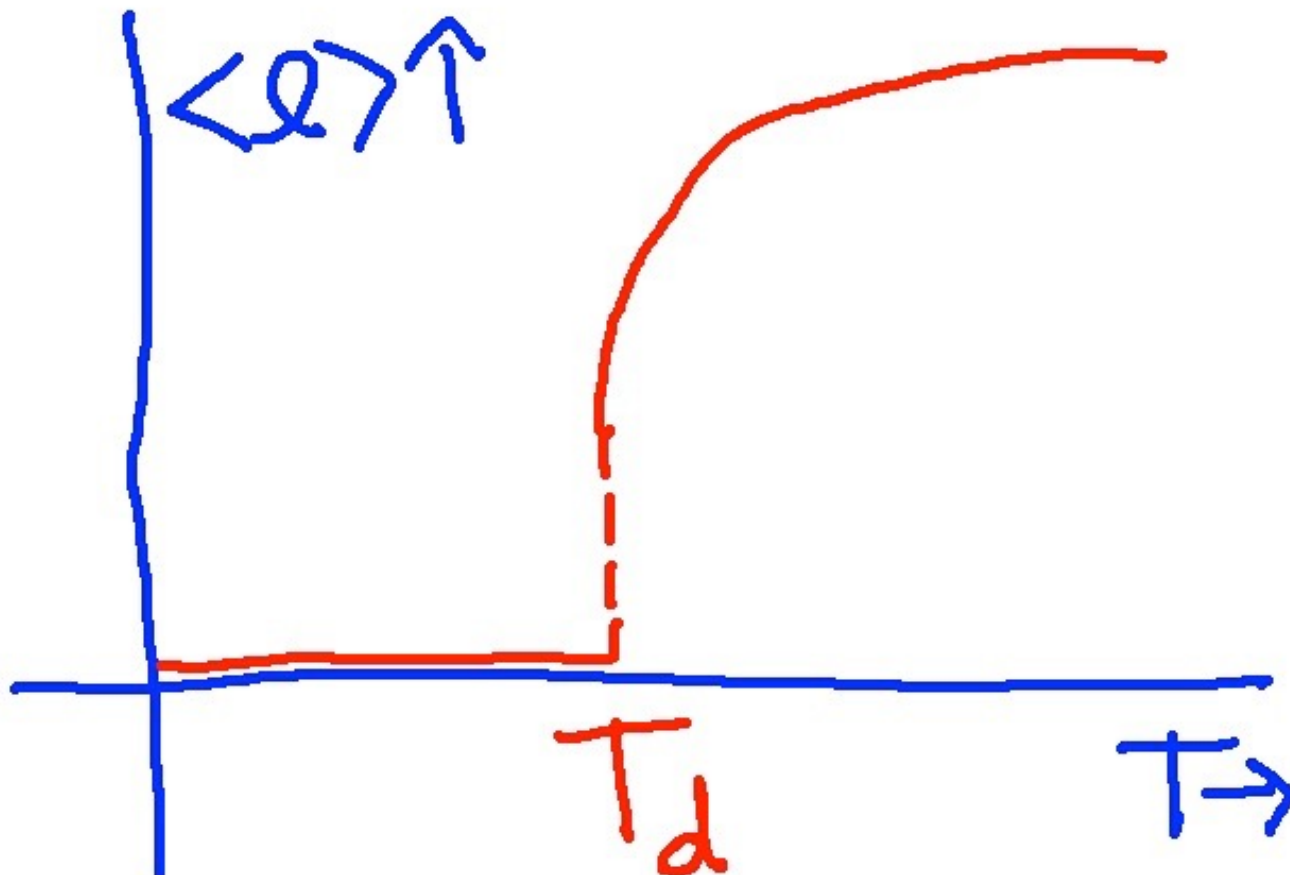


# Deconfinement at temperature $T \neq 0$

As  $T \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $g^2(T) \sim 1/\log(T)$ . Hence  $A_0$  is small,  $\langle loop \rangle \sim 1$ .

Two phases: *confining*,  $T < T_d$ :  $\langle loop \rangle = 0$ . *Deconfining*,  $T > T_d$ :  $\langle loop \rangle > 0$

First order for 3 colors: cubic invariant from  $Z(3)$  symmetry.



$Z(3)$  interface tension, potential for  $A_0$ .



## Z(3) degenerate vacua

Consider a classical field,  $A_0^{cl} = \frac{2\pi T}{3g} q t_8$   $t_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

If we take  $q = 1, 2$ , or  $3$ , we get Z(3) states

$$\mathbf{L}(A_0^{cl}) = e^{2\pi i j/3} \mathbf{1}$$

But what about *arbitrary* constant  $q$ ? As constant, diagonal field,  $G_{\mu\nu} = 0$ .

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu - ig[A_\mu, A_\nu]$$

So then *any*  $q$  is a vacuum? Can't be right, should only be 3 vacua.

Will show: **classical degeneracy lifted by quantum effects.**

Compute at high temperature, so semi-classical expansion should be ok.

Gross, RDP, Yaffe '81; Weiss, '82; Bhattacharya, Gocksch, Korthals-Altes & RDP, '91

# Lifting the degeneracy

Expand about classical field to one loop order,

$$A_\mu = A_\mu^{cl} + A_\mu^{qu}, \quad A_\mu^{cl} = \delta_{\mu 0} \frac{2\pi T}{3g} q t_8$$

Use the background field method, L. Abbott, Nucl Phys B185, 181 (1985)

$$\mathcal{S}^{qu} = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \log(-D_{cl}^2)$$

This is valid only for the above classical field. We need to evaluate

$$D_\mu^{cl} A_\nu^{qu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu^{qu} - ig[A_\mu^{cl}, A_\nu^{qu}]$$

At  $T \neq 0$

$$i\partial_0 = p_0 = 2\pi T n, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2 \dots \quad \int \frac{dk_0}{2\pi} \rightarrow T \sum_n$$

## Tricks to compute

How to deal with  $[A_0^{\text{cl}}, A_\nu^{\text{qu}}]$ ? Useful to us ladder generators, as for SU(2):

$$t_4^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} ; t_4^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{tr}(t_4^+ t_4^-) = 1 , \quad \text{tr}(t_4^+ t_4^+) = \text{tr}(t_4^- t_4^-) = 0$$

Very simple commutator!

$$[t_8, t_4^\pm] = \pm 3 t_4^\pm$$

Then *all* of the messy SU(3) matrices collapse, as

$$D_0^{\text{cl}} A_\nu^{\text{qu}, 4\pm} = \partial_0 A_\nu^{\text{qu}, 4\pm} - ig[A_0^{\text{cl}}, A_\nu^{\text{qu}, 4\pm}] = -i 2 \pi T (n \pm q) A_\nu^{\text{qu}, 4\pm}$$

In background  $A_0$ , *all*  $p_0$ 's get shifted from  $2\pi T * \text{integer}$  to  $2\pi T * (\text{integer} + q)$ .

## More tricks: sum over “n” last

We need

$$\mathcal{V}^{qu}(q) = 4 \operatorname{tr} \log((p_0^+)^2 + \vec{p}^2) , \quad p_0^+ = 2\pi T(n + q)$$

We assume that “q” is *constant*, and so this is a potential,  $V^{\text{qu}}(q)$ .

When in doubt, differentiate

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial q} \mathcal{V}^{qu}(q) = 8 (2\pi T) \operatorname{tr} \frac{p_0^+}{(p_0^+)^2 + \vec{p}^2}$$

In the loop, *first* integrate over spatial p!

$$(16\pi T)T \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} \int \frac{d^3 p}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{p_0^+}{(p_0^+)^2 + \vec{p}^2} = -16\pi^2 T^4 \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} (n + q) |n + q|$$

# $\zeta$ functions

Zeta functions are very useful:

$$\zeta(r, q) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+q)^r}$$

Turn the sum over all “n” into positive “n”,

$$\sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} (n+q)|n+q| = \zeta(-2, q) - \zeta(-2, 1-q)$$

Useful identity:

$$\zeta(-2, q) = -\frac{1}{12} \frac{d}{dq} q^2 (1-q)^2$$

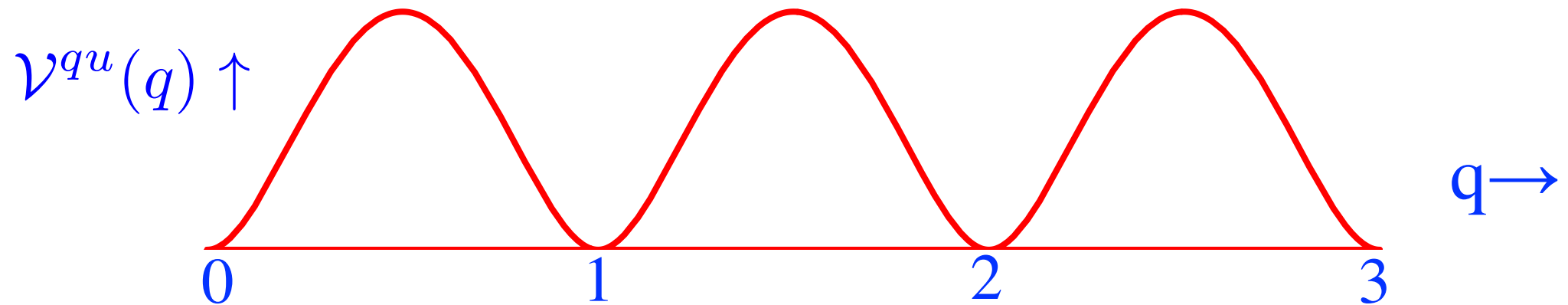
We finally get

$$\mathcal{V}^{qu}(q) = \frac{8\pi T^4}{3} q^2 (1-q)^2$$

# Lifting the degeneracy

Quantum fluctuations generate a potential for  $q$ ,  $\mathcal{V}^{qu}(q) = \frac{8\pi T^4}{3} q^2(1-q)^2$

$$\mathbf{L}(q) = e^{2\pi i j/3} \mathbf{1} \text{ if } q = j$$



$q = 0$  and  $3$  are the same, just shows that  $q$  is a periodic variable.

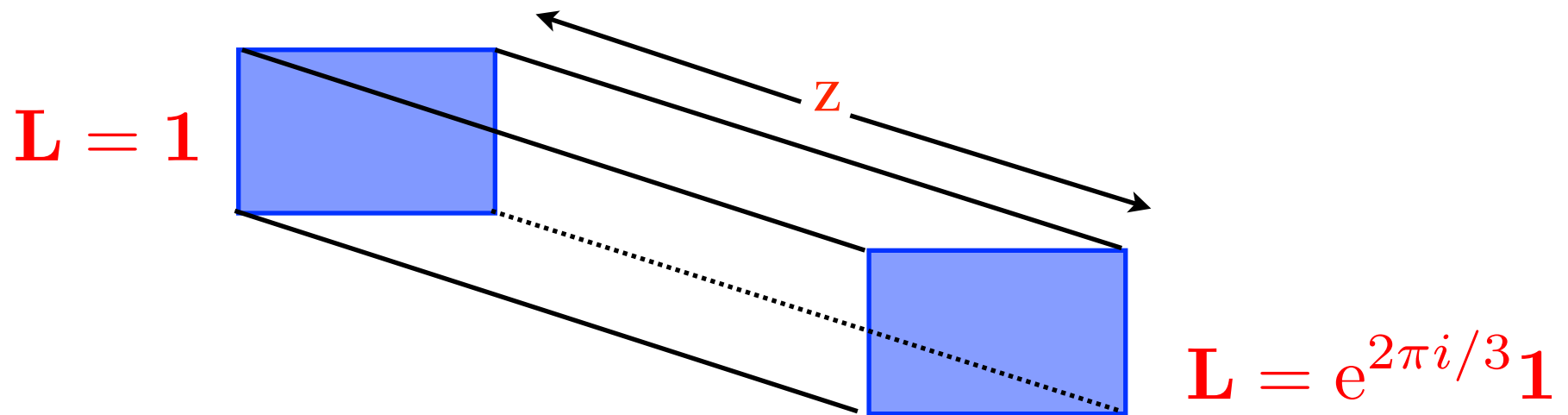
Non-trivial:  $q = 1$  and  $2$  are degenerate with  $q = 0, 3$  :  $Z(3)$  symmetry!

N.B.: above potential is *only* valid for  $0 \leq q \leq 1$ : periodic, as shown, for other  $q$ .

$V(0)$  includes the free energy of massless gluons,  $- 8 \pi^2 T^4/45$ .

# So what? $Z(3)$ interface tension

Consider a box which is long in one (spatial) direction, with one vacuum at one end, and a different, but degenerate vacua, at the other.



Between the two vacua, an *interface* forms, with finite energy  $\sim V_{\text{tr}}$ .

In weak coupling, we can compute this using the potential above.

# A tunneling problem

Now let  $q$ , which was constant, become  $q(z)$ .

The classical action is 
$$\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(G_{\mu\nu}^{cl})^2 \sim \left( \frac{dA_0^{cl}}{dz} \right)^2 = \frac{8\pi^2 T^2}{3g^2} \left( \frac{dq}{dz} \right)^2$$

We can combine the two, to get

$$\mathcal{S}^{cl} + \mathcal{V}^{qu} = V_{tr} \frac{8\pi^2 T^3}{3g} \int d\tilde{z} \left( \left( \frac{dq}{d\tilde{z}} \right)^2 + q^2(1-q)^2 \right), \quad \tilde{z} = gTz$$

The classical term is  $1/g^2$ ; the quantum potential,  $g^0$ .

Balancing the two gives an action in between,  $\sim 1/g$  ( $= \sqrt{g^2}$ ) 
$$\sigma_{Z(3)} = \frac{8\pi^2}{9} \frac{T^3}{\sqrt{g^2}}$$

At small  $g$  the interface is wide,  $\sim 1/gT$ : approx constant  $q$  ok.



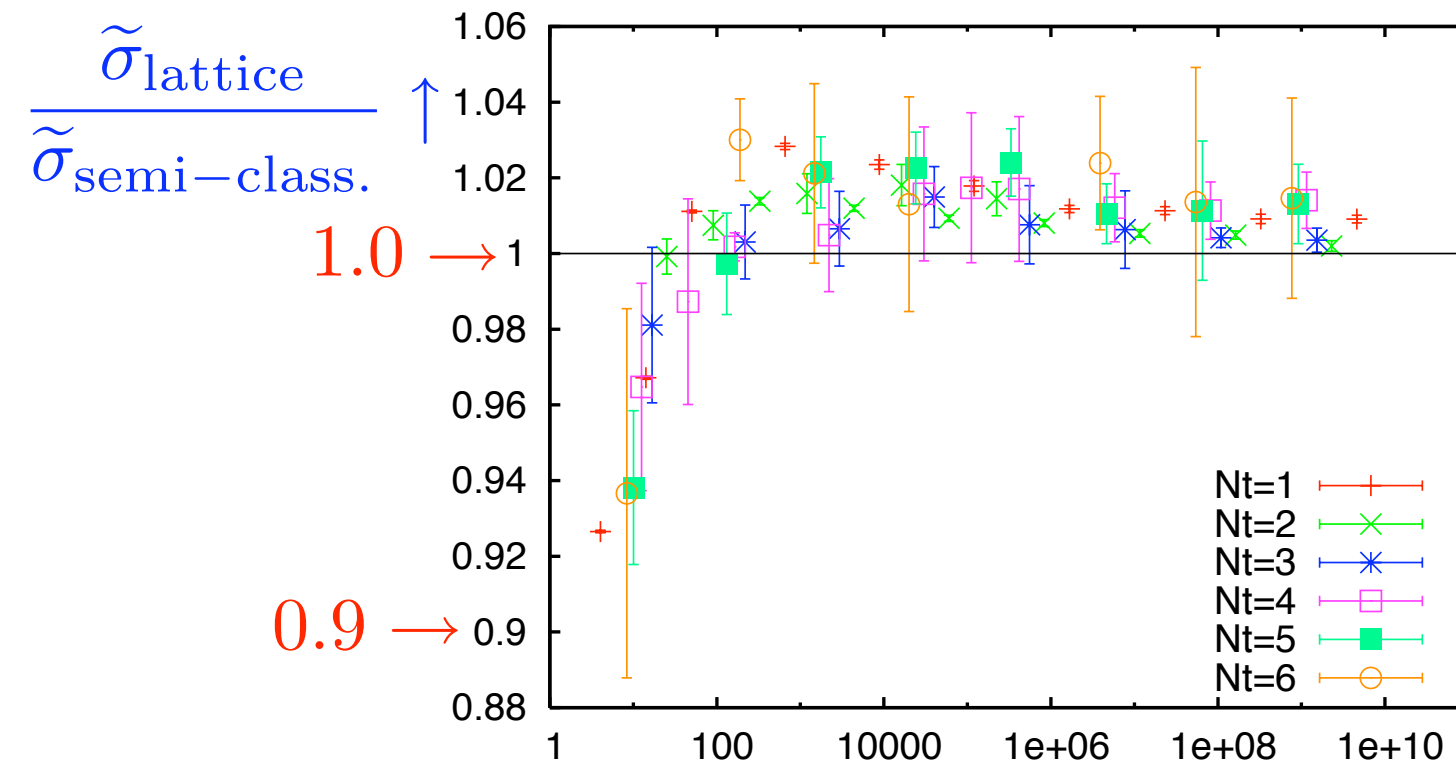
# Lattice: $Z(N)$ interfaces = 't Hooft loop

From lattice: semi-classical  $Z(N)$  interface tension works well to  $\sim 10 T_c$ .

$\sigma_{Z(3)} \sim$  't Hooft loop: Korthals-Altes, Kovner & Stephanov, hep-ph/9909516

For  $N \geq 4$ , several interface tensions: satisfy semi-classical relation down to  $T_d$ :  
Bursa & Teper, hep-lat/0505025

$$\tilde{\sigma}_k = \frac{k(N-k)}{N-1} \tilde{\sigma}_1$$



$\leftarrow$  de Forcrand & Noth, hep-lat/0506005.

$$\mathbf{L} : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow e^{2\pi i k / N} \mathbf{1}$$

$$T / \Lambda_{\overline{MS}} \rightarrow$$

Results from the lattice, pure glue and not

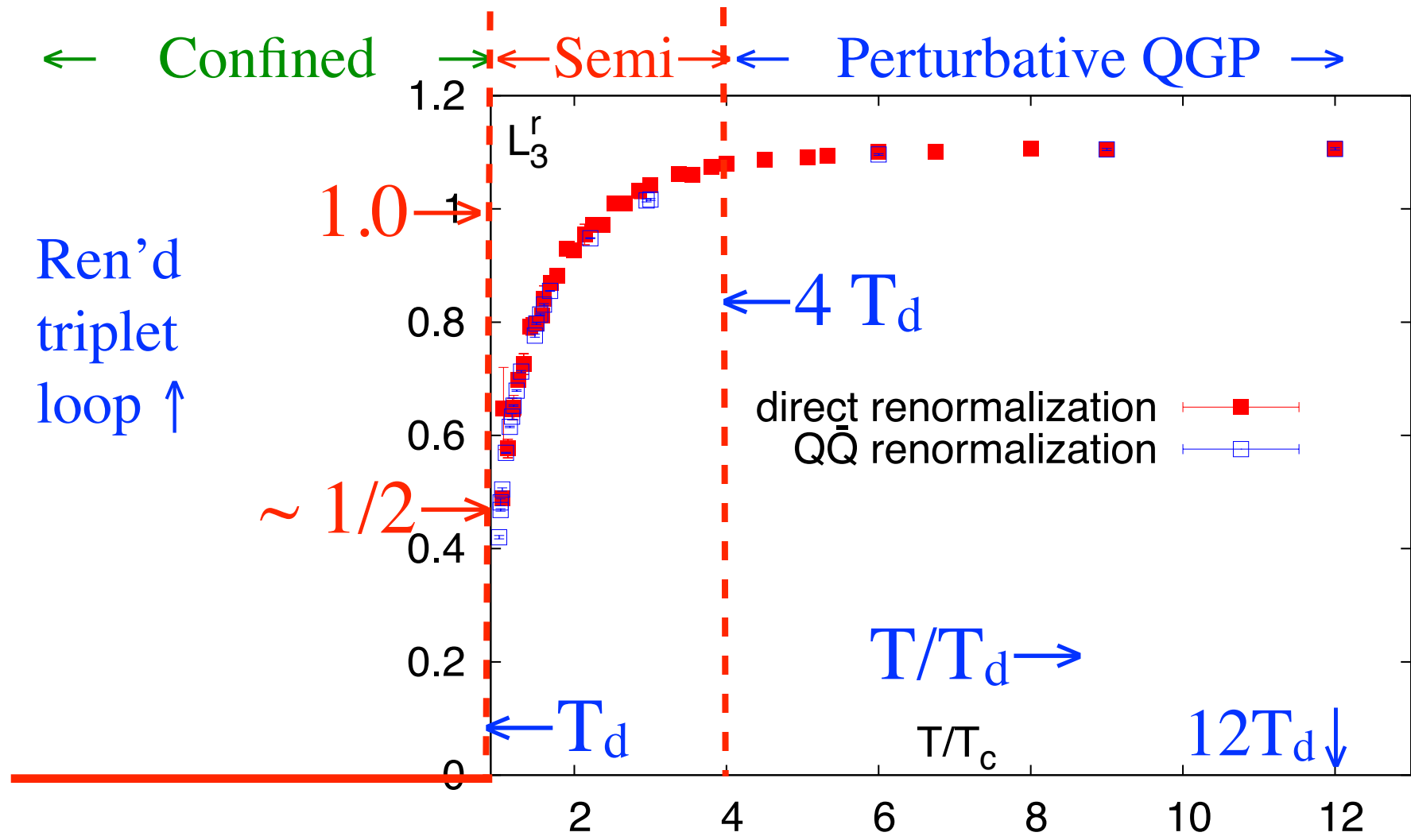
# Lattice: renormalized loop, no quarks

Renormalized loop from lattice: Gupta, Hubner & Kaczmarek 0711.2251.

$\langle loop \rangle = 0$ ,  $T < T_d$ . Confined phase

$1/2 < \langle loop \rangle < 1$ ,  $T: T_d \rightarrow 4 T_d$ , “semi” QGP, *partially* deconfined. *Broad* region

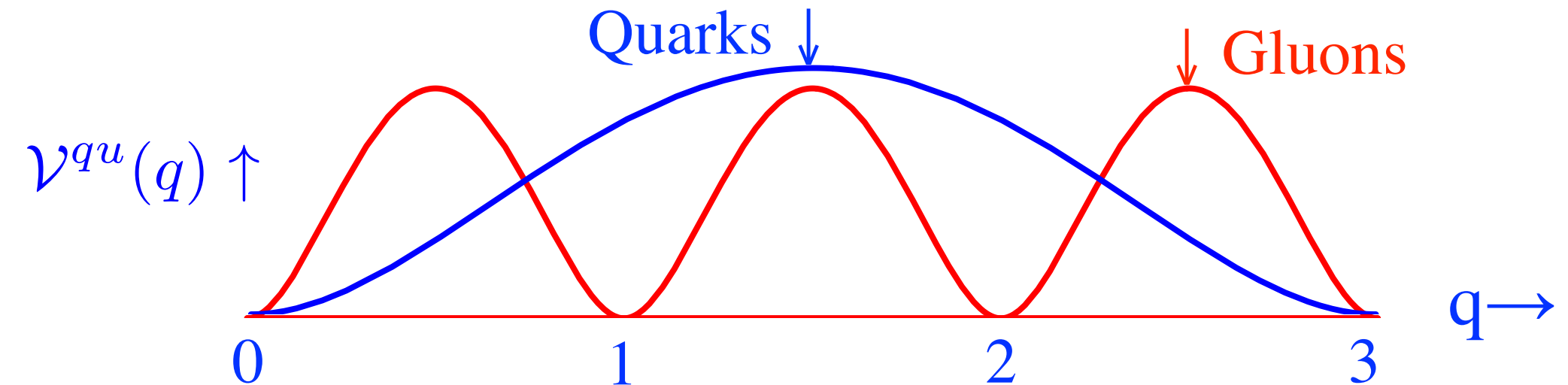
$\langle loop \rangle \sim 1$ ,  $T > 4 T_d$ , perturbative QGP



# Potential for $A_0$ , with quarks

Including the potential with quarks,  $A_0^{cl} = \frac{2\pi T}{3g} q t_8$

$$\mathbf{L}(q) = e^{2\pi i j/3} \mathbf{1} \text{ if } q = j$$



Above for 3 massless flavors.

With quarks, the  $Z(3)$  vacua with  $q = 1$  and  $2$  are no longer degenerate.

Dynamical breaking of  $Z(3)$  symmetry by dynamical quarks.

# Lattice: renormalized loop, with quarks

With quarks,  $\langle loop \rangle \neq 0$  at *any*  $T \neq 0$

Lattice: QCD, 2+1 flavors.  $T_\chi \sim 155$  MeV, *crossover*.

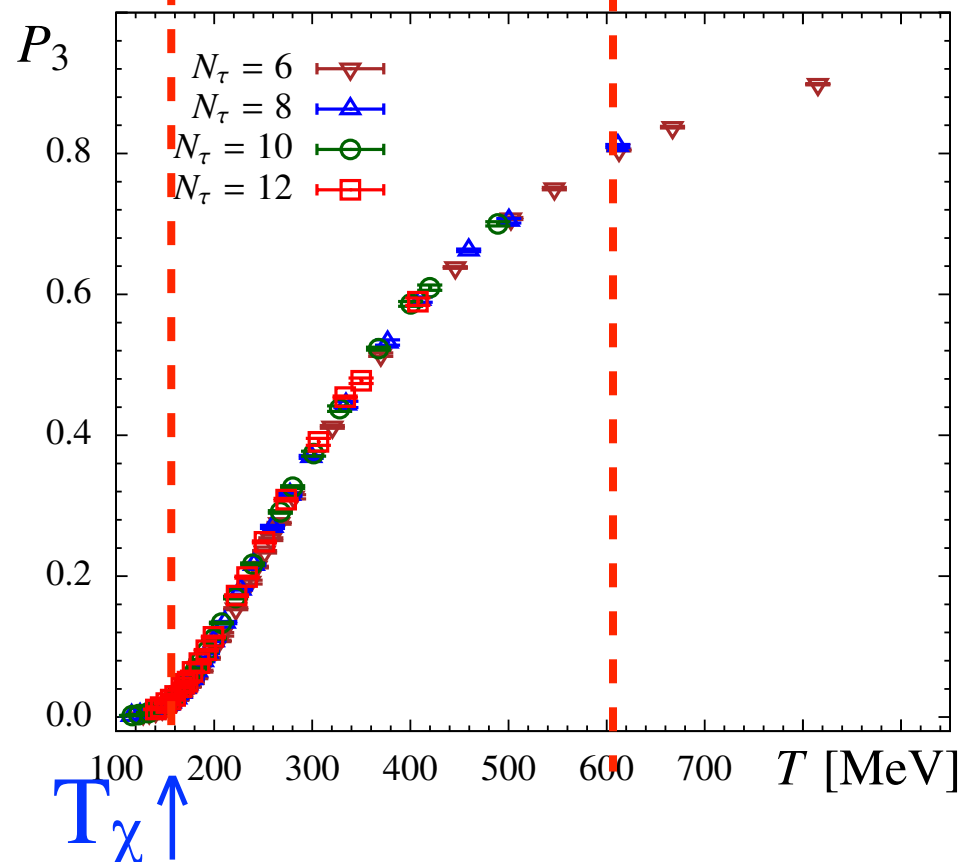
Ren.'d Polaykov loop *very* small at  $T_\chi$ , semi-QGP until  $\sim 3 T_\chi$ .

Broad in T: *why does HRG fail at  $\sim 140$  MeV? Why  $\chi$ SB'g in  $\sim$  confined phase?*

← Hadronic

→ ← Semi-QGP → ← Perturbative QGP

Ren.'d  
triplet  
loop ↑



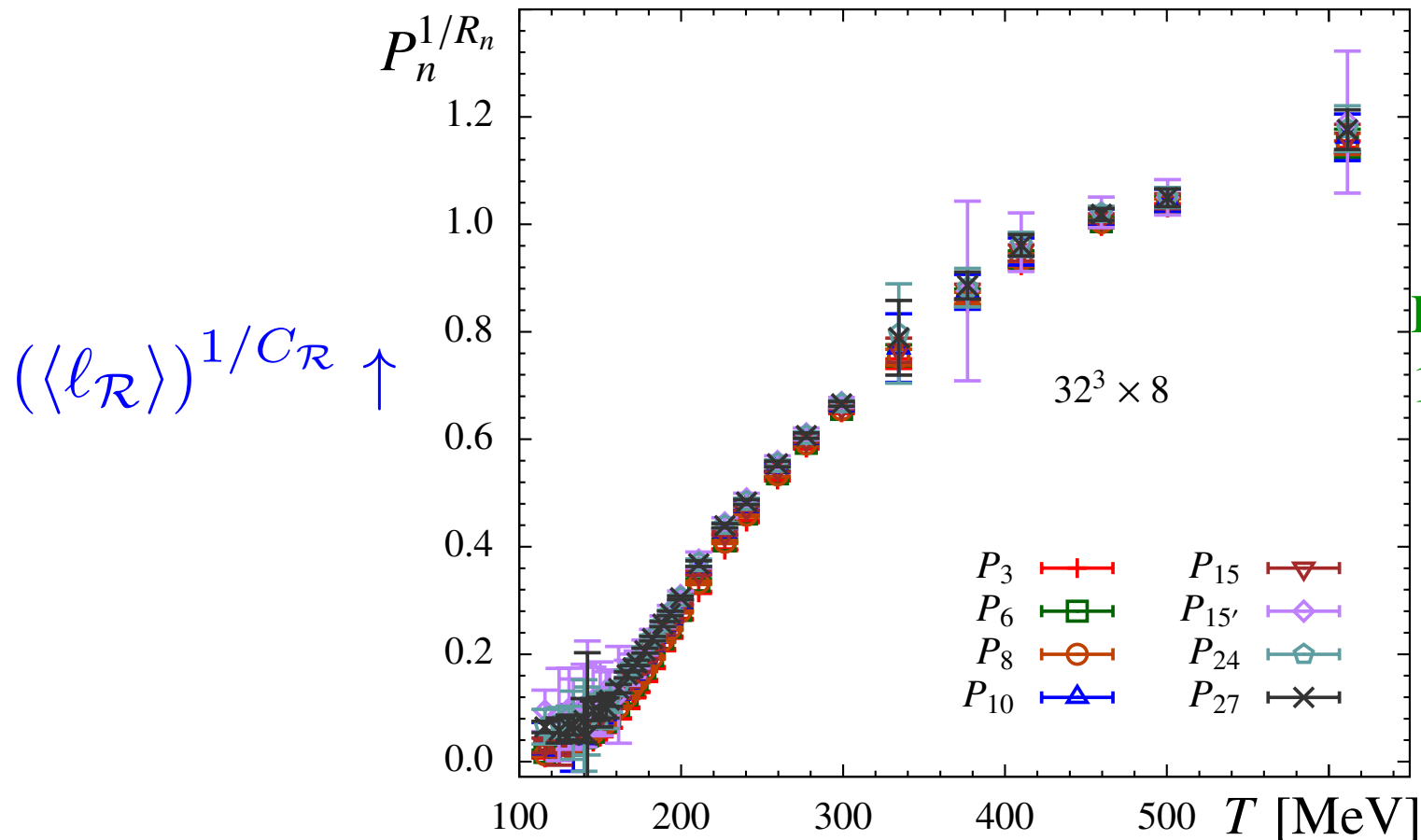
Petreczky & Schadler,  
1509.07874

# Technical aside

Can measure renormalized Polyakov loops in any representation.

Appear to satisfy universal scaling relation, both in pure glue & with quarks

Pure glue: Gupta, Hubner & Kaczmarek 0711.2251. With 2+1 flavors:

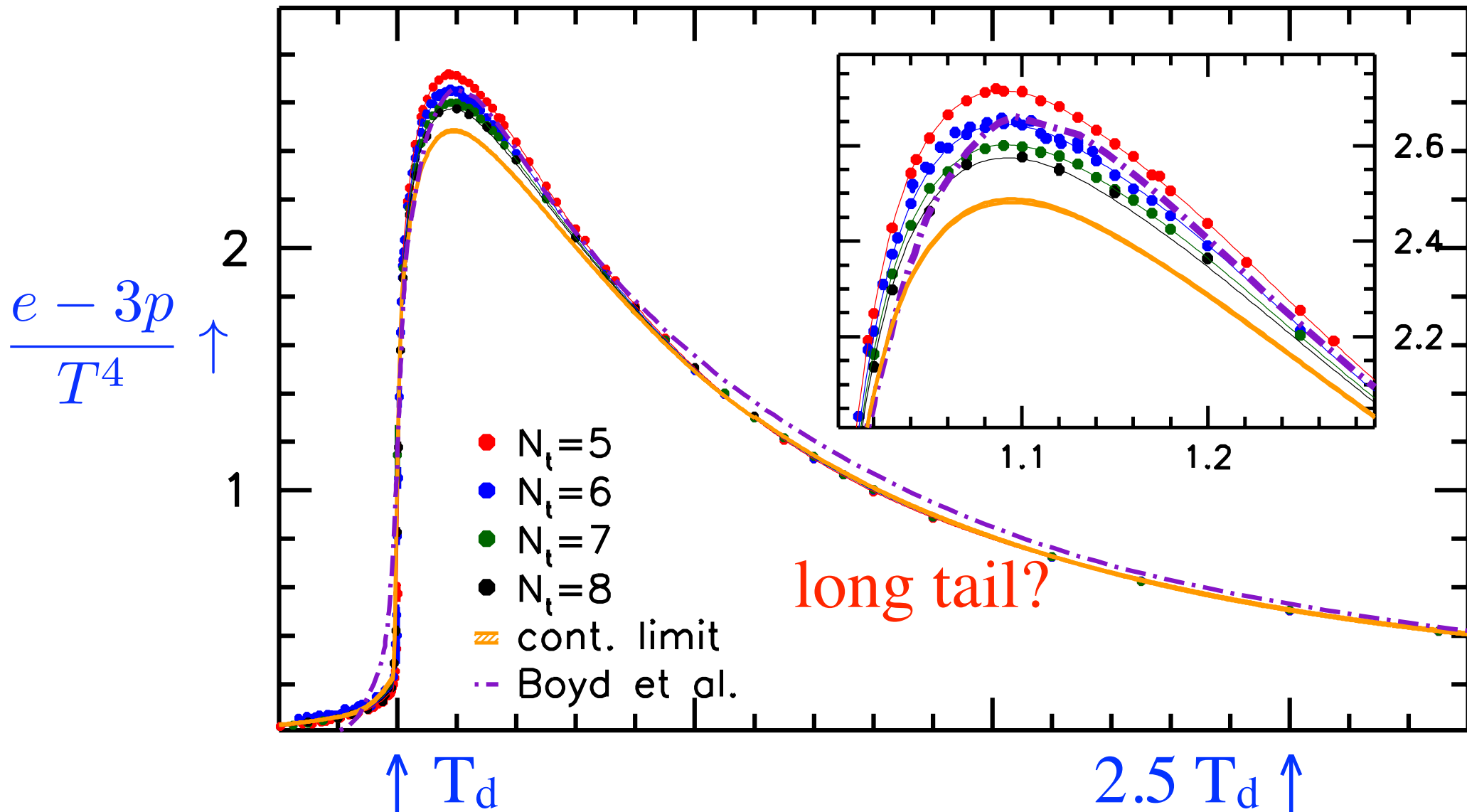


Petreczky & Schadler,  
1509.07874

# Lattice: first order

“Pure” SU(3), no quarks. Weakly first order. Peak in  $(e-3p)/T^4$ , just above  $T_d$ .

Borsanyi, Endrodi, Fodor, Katz, & Szabo, 1204.6184



# Lattice: deconfined strings

$T_d \rightarrow 4 T_d$ : *leading* correction

to ideal gas,  $\sim T^4$ , is  $\sim T^2$

*not* a bag constant,  $T^0$

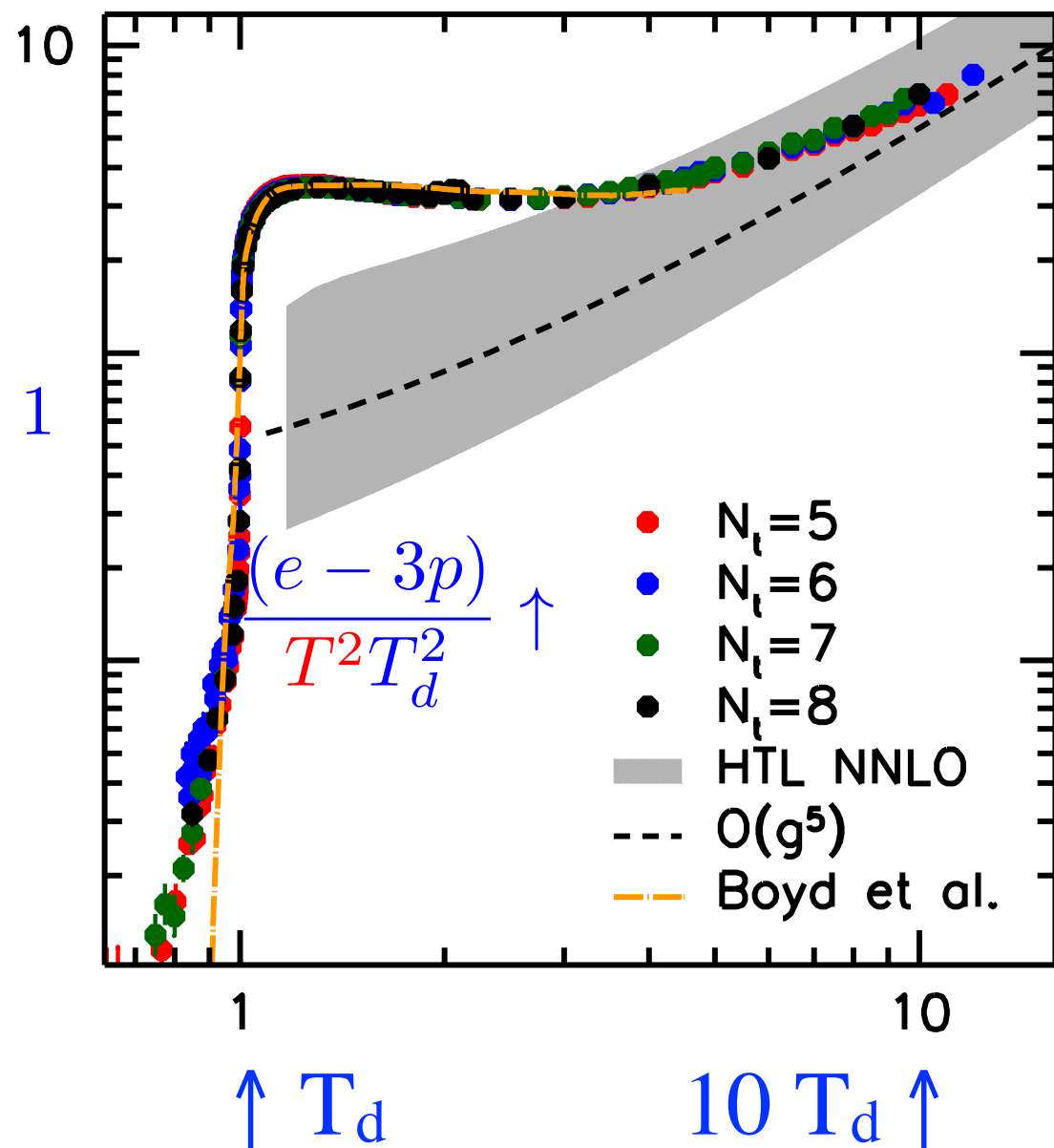
$$p(T) \sim \#(T^4 - c T^2 T_d^2), \quad c \approx 1$$

Borsanyi, Endrodi, Fodor, Katz,  
& Szabo, 1204.6184

Term  $\sim T^2$  is like the

pressure of *deconfined* strings

$\sim$  constant for all SU(N)





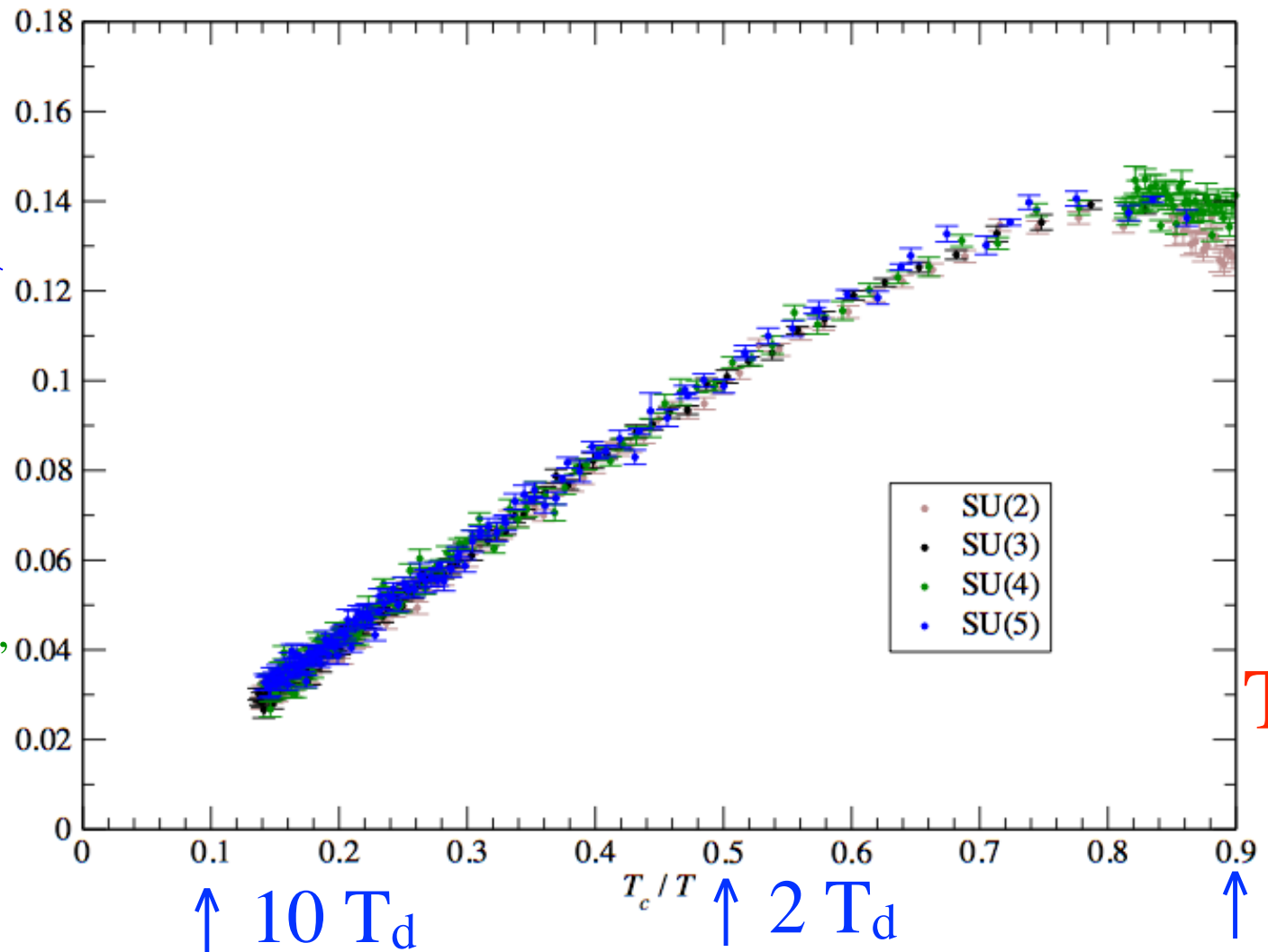
# Lattice: deconfined strings for SU(N), 2+1 dimensions

In 2+ 1 dimensions, hidden scaling again  $\sim T^2$ : *not* a mass term,  $\sim m^2 T$ :

$$p(T) \sim \#(T^3 - c T^2 T_d) , \quad c \approx 1$$

$$\frac{1}{N^2 - 1} \frac{e - 2p}{T^3} \uparrow$$

Caselle, Castagnini,  
Feo, Gliozzi, Gursoy,  
Panero, Schafer,  
1111.0580



Matrix model for pure glue theories

# Path to confinement

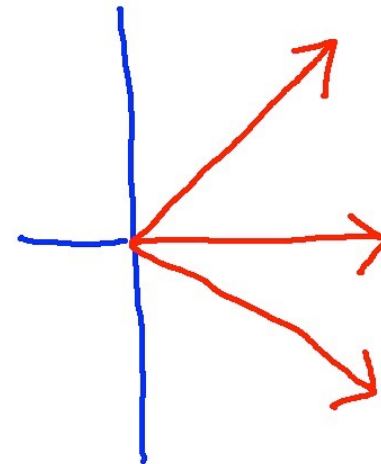
$\langle \text{Wilson line} \rangle$  is a matrix, so diagonalize. SU(3): 2 diagonal generators,  $t_3$  &  $t_8$  :

$$t_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Above, paths along  $t_8$ , give Z(3) transf's. Now consider paths  $\sim t_3$ :

$$\mathbf{L} = e^{2\pi i q t_3/3} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2\pi i q/3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2\pi i q/3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\ell = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr } \mathbf{L} = \frac{1}{3} \left( 1 + 2 \cos \left( \frac{2\pi q}{3} \right) \right)$$



Confining vacuum:  $q = 1$ ,  $\langle \text{loop} \rangle = 0$

# Matrix model for pure glue

Perturbative potential is ideal gas + *previous potential for q*

$$\mathcal{V}_{pert}(q) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} T^4 \left( -\frac{4}{15} + \sum_{a,b} q_{ab}^2 (1 - q_{ab})^2 \right), \quad q_{ab} = |q_a - q_b|_{\text{mod } 1}$$

*Assume non-pert. potential  $\sim T^2$ :*

$$\mathcal{V}_{non}(q) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} T^2 T_d^2 \sum_{a,b} \left( -c_1 q_{ab} (1 - q_{ab}) - c_2 q_{ab}^2 (1 - q_{ab})^2 + \frac{4}{15} c_3 \right)$$

From lattice data, constant term  $\sim c_3$  most important for  $T > 1.2 T_d$ .

Thus expect that the  $q$ 's only matter for  $T < 1.2 T_d$  : *narrow* transition region

Also added a bag constant  $B$  (helps with latent heat, not essential)

Dumitru, Guo, Hidaka, Korthals-Altes & RP, 1011.3820 & 1205.0137 + ....

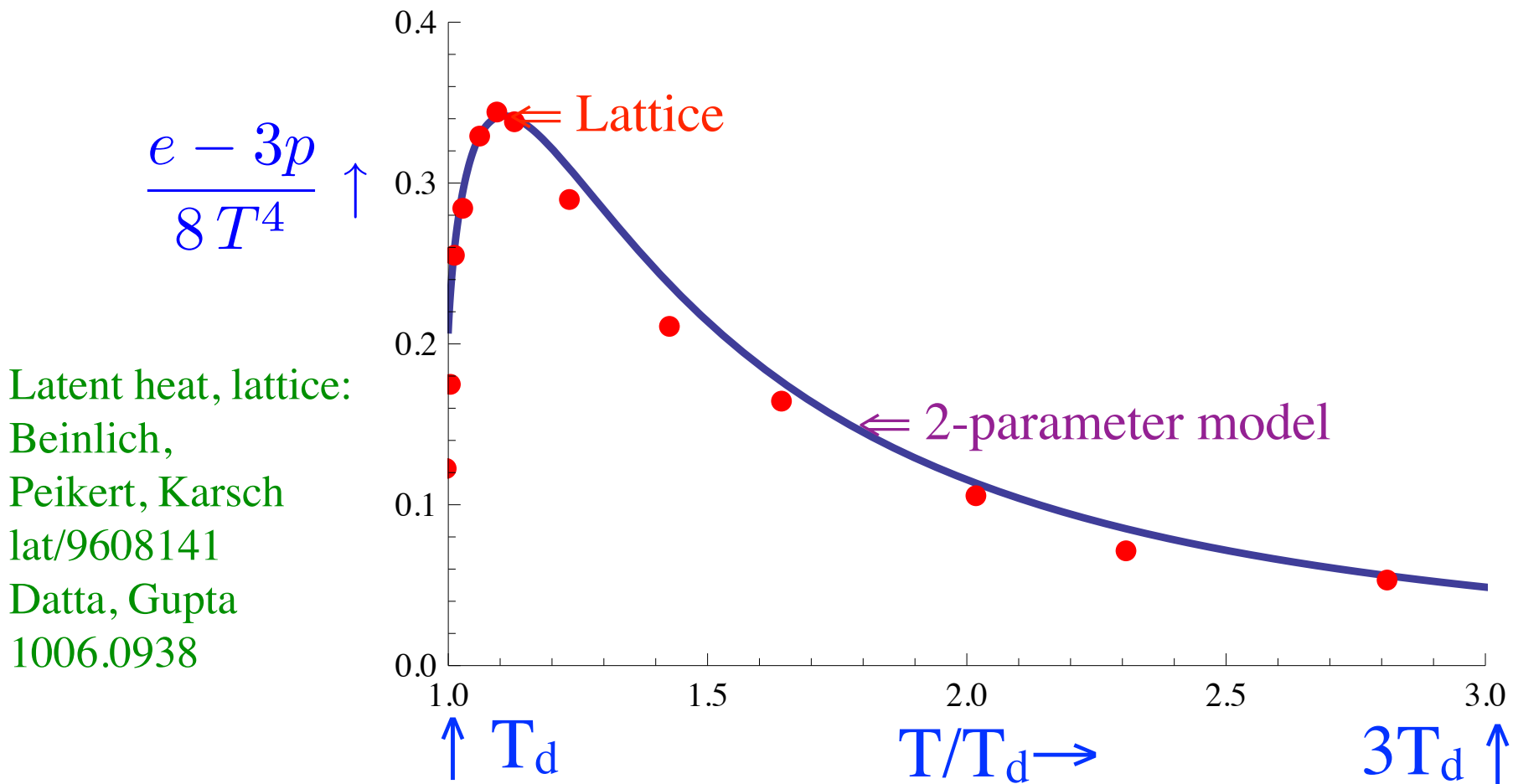
# Matrix model: parameters from the lattice

Choose 2 free parameters to fit:  
latent heat at  $T_c$ ,  $(e-3p)/T^4$  at large  $T$

$$c_1 = .88, c_2 = .55, c_3 = .95$$

Reasonable value for bag constant  $B$ :

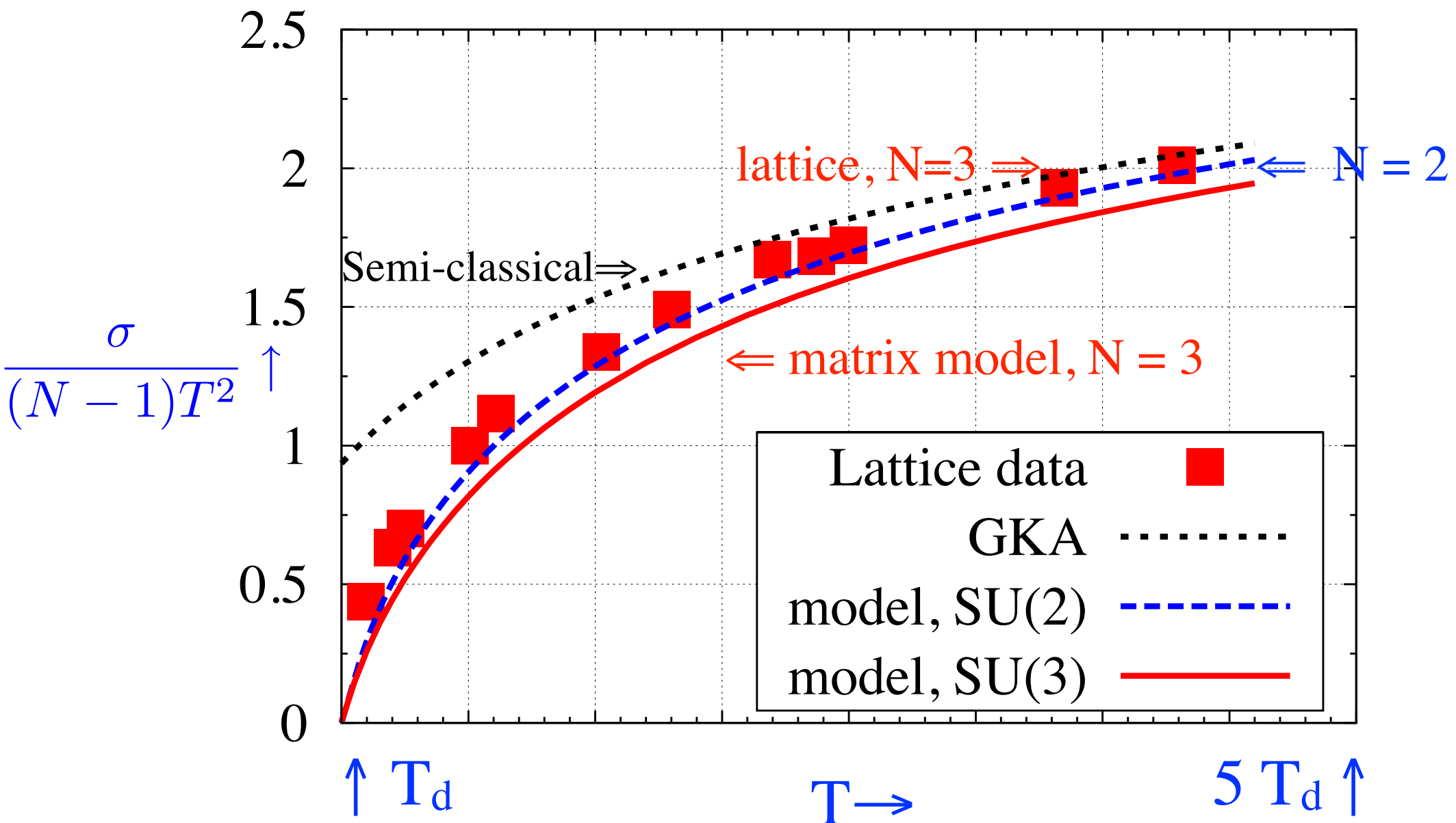
$$T_d = 270 \text{ MeV}, B \sim (262 \text{ MeV})^4$$



# Matrix model: interface tension vs lattice

Matrix model works well:

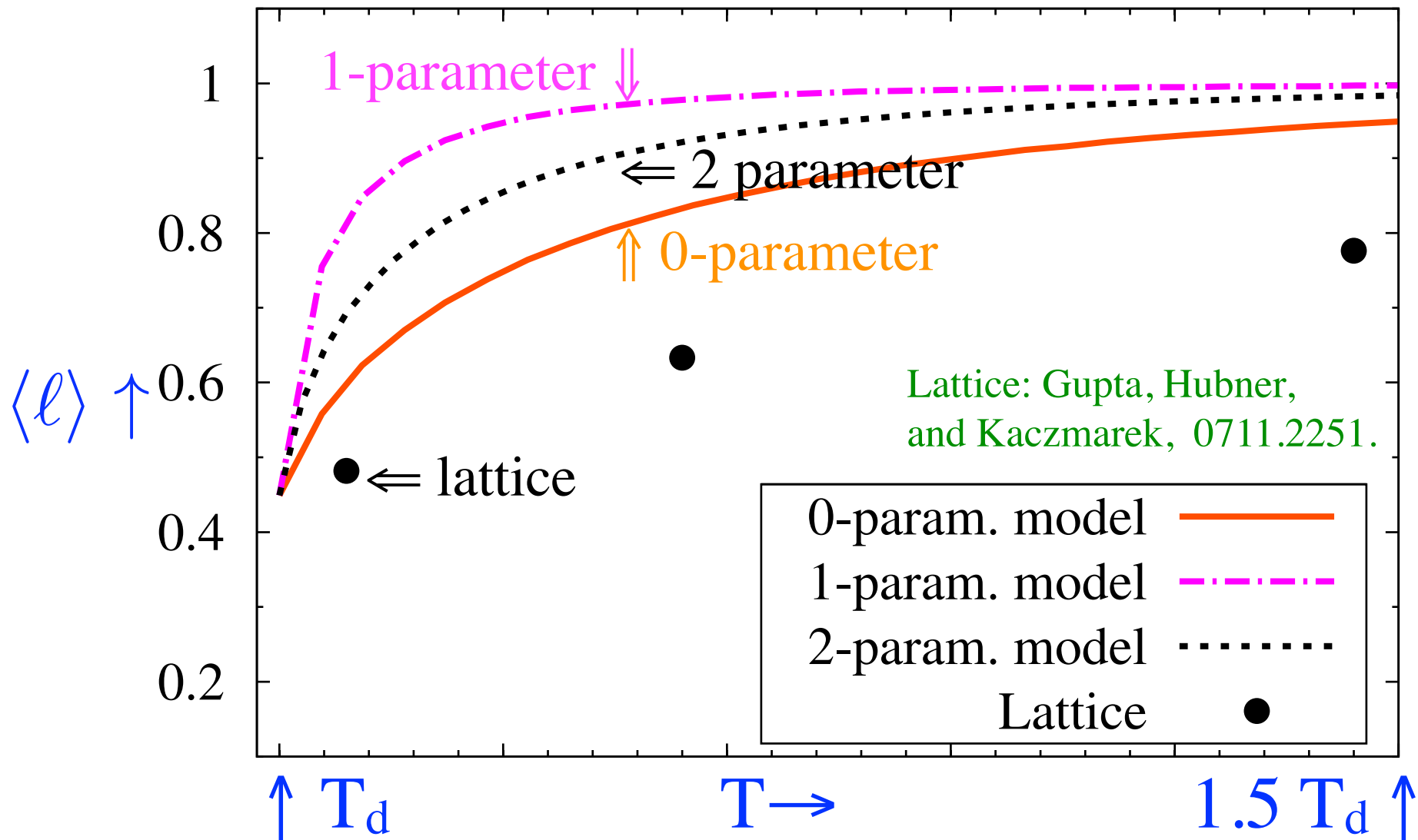
Lattice: de Forcrand, D'Elia, & Pepe, lat/0007034; de Forcrand & Noth lat/0506005



# Matrix model: Polyakov loop vs lattice

*Renormalized Polyakov loop from lattice nothing like Matrix Model*

Model: transition region *narrow*, to  $\sim 1.2 T_d$ . Lattice: loop *wide*, to  $\sim 4.0 T_d$ .



Birdtrack diagrams for  $SU(N)$



## Another basis...

Above  $t_3$  picks out a given direction in color space....why?

*Need a new basis with no preferred direction.* SU(2): three gen.'s. Two ladder:

$$t^{12} = \sigma^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t^{21} = \sigma^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and one diagonal. Be perverse, and add *two*. N.B.:  $t^{11} + t^{22} = 0$

$$t^{11} \sim \sigma^3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t^{22} \sim -\sigma^3 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Perverse, but no preferred direction. Normalization weird with *one* extra gen.:

$$\text{tr } t^{12} t^{21} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \text{tr}(t^{12})^2 = \text{tr}(t^{21})^2 = 0$$

$$\text{tr}(t^{11})^2 = \text{tr}(t^{22})^2 = \frac{1}{4}, \quad \text{tr}(t^{11} t^{22}) = -\frac{1}{4}$$

## Weird basis

For SU(3), take a basis with *one* extra diagonal generator ( $t^{11} + t^{22} + t^{33} = 0$ )

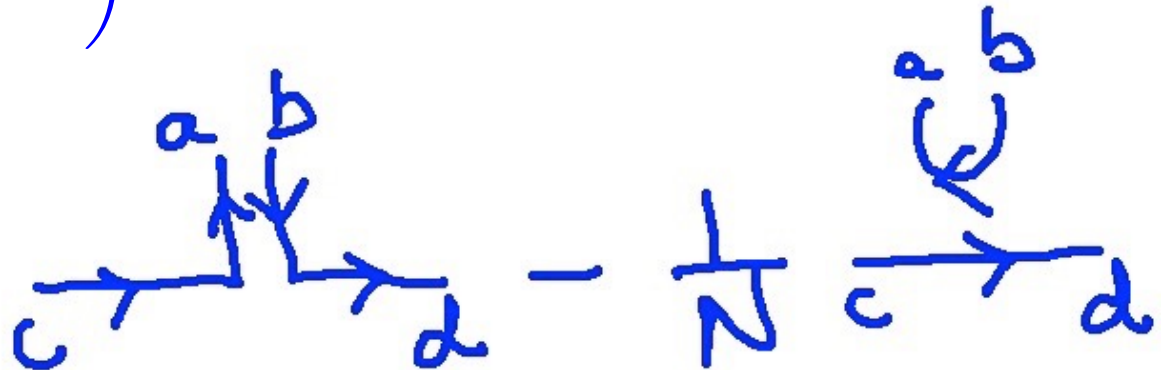
$$t^{33} = t_8 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t^{22} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t^{11} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

No gen. like SU(2),  $\text{diag}(1, -1, 0)$ :

*no* preferred direction. Overcomplete by *one* generator.

Diagrammatically, easy to generalize to arbitrary SU(N):

$$(t^{ab})_{cd} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \delta^{ac} \delta^{bd} - \frac{1}{N} \delta^{ab} \delta^{cd} \right)$$



# Birdtracks = double line basis

Basis overcomplete by one:

$$\sum_{a=1}^N t^{aa} = \sum_{a,b} t^{ab} \delta^{ba} = \text{[diagram: a line with a vertical line and an arrow pointing up]} - \frac{1}{N} \text{[diagram: a line with a loop]} = \text{[diagram: a line]} \left(1 - \frac{N}{N}\right) = 0$$

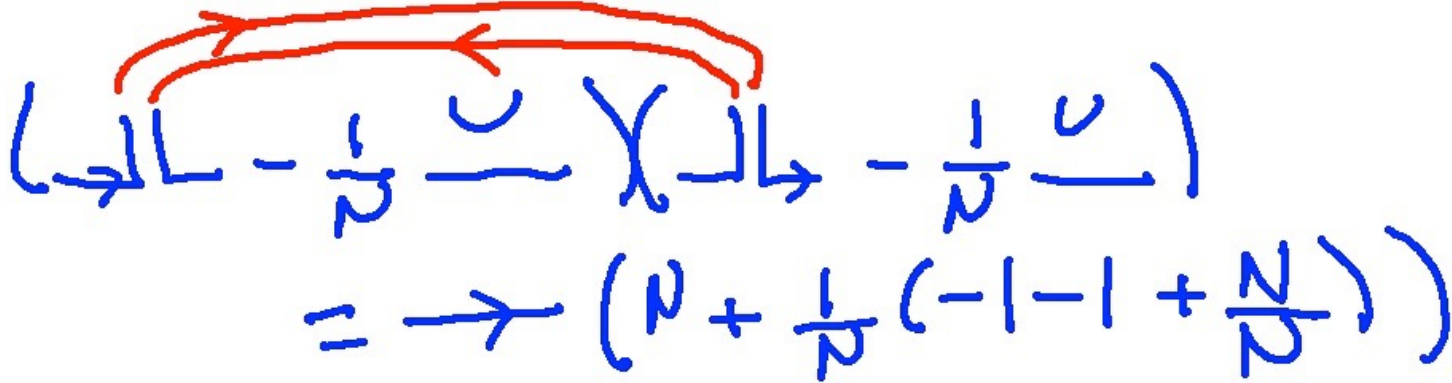
Product of two generators is a projector:

$$\text{tr}(t^{ab} t^{cd}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (t^{ab})_{dc}$$

$$\left( \text{[diagram: line with vertical line and arrow up]} - \frac{1}{N} \text{[diagram: line with loop]} \right) \left( \text{[diagram: line with vertical line and arrow down]} - \frac{1}{N} \text{[diagram: line with loop]} \right) = \text{[diagram: line with loop]} - \frac{1}{N} \text{[diagram: line with loop]}$$

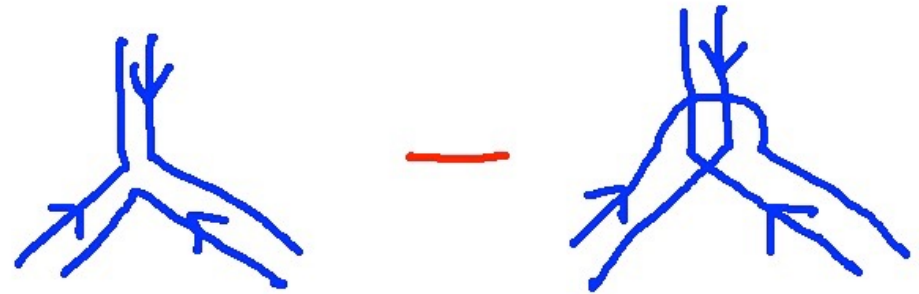
## And on with birdtracks

Can derive *arbitrary* SU(N) identities by pecking:

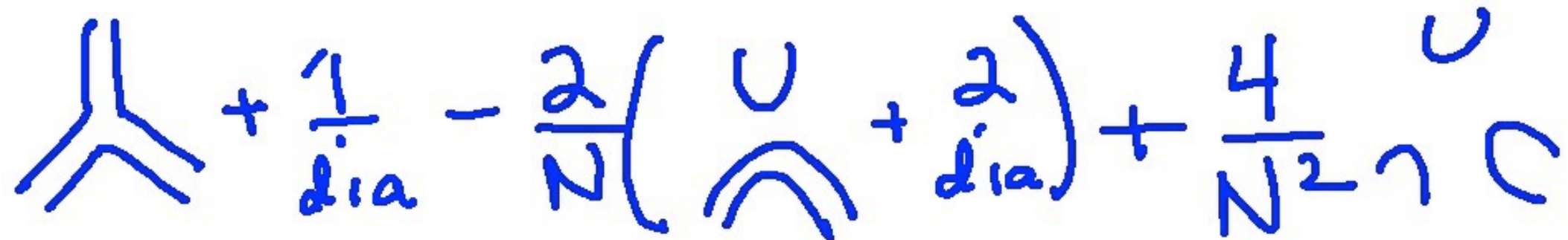
$$(t^{ab}t^{ba})_{cd} = \frac{N^2 - 1}{2N} \delta_{cd}$$


$$= \rightarrow \left( N + \frac{1}{N} (-1 - 1 + N) \right)$$

Antisymmetric  $f^{ab,cd,ef}$  is simple:



Symmetric  $f^{ab,cd,ef}$  is not, because of the traces: *this* is why SU(N) is hard!



$$+ \frac{1}{dia} - \frac{2}{N} \left( \text{diagram} + \frac{2}{dia} \right) + \frac{4}{N^2} \text{diagram}$$

# Group identities from birdtracks

$$(t^{ab})_{eg} (t^{cd})_{gf} =$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \\ -\frac{1}{N} \quad \rightarrow \quad \hookrightarrow \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \\ -\frac{1}{N} \quad \rightarrow \quad \hookrightarrow \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \quad \rightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \end{array}$$

$$-\frac{1}{N} \left( \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \quad \hookrightarrow \\ \rightarrow \quad \hookrightarrow \quad \uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \rightarrow \end{array} \right)$$

$$+\frac{1}{N^2} \begin{array}{c} \hookrightarrow \quad \hookrightarrow \end{array}$$

*Just* by drawing arrows, can show the standard relation:

$$\sum_{a,b=1}^N (t^{ab} t^{ba})_{cd} = \frac{N^2 - 1}{N} \delta_{cd}$$

# Birdtracks = double line

At large N, *trivial*: drop all trace terms! Double line notation of 't Hooft.

Consider expanding about some background field:

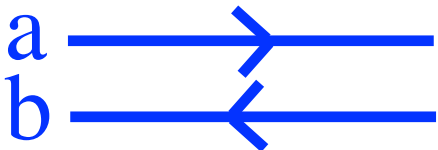
$$(A_0^{cl})_{ab} = \frac{2\pi T}{g} q_a \delta^{ab}$$

At any N, quark propagator has a single line, with one color index



$$i D_0^{cl} = 2\pi T (n + 1/2 + q_a)$$

At large N, gluons have two lines, with two color indices



$$i D_0^{cl} = 2\pi T (n + q_a - q_b)$$

Pure gauge transition for  $SU(N)$  at large  $N$ :

Gross-Witten-Wadia?

# QCD on a femtosphere

Consider pure  $SU(\infty)$  on a spatial sphere so small that coupling is small

Sundberg, [th/9908001](#);

Aharony, Marsano, Minwalla, Papadodimas, Van Raamsdonk, [th/0310285](#); [th/0508077](#)

Dumitriu, Lenaghan, RDP, [ph/0410294](#)

Integrate out modes with  $J \neq 0$ , obtain eff. theory for static modes, matrix model

Consider eigenvalues of Wilson line,  $\mathbf{L} = \exp(2\pi i \mathbf{q})$

Take  $A_{i0} \sim q^i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots N$ . discrete sum  $\sum_i \Rightarrow \int dq \varrho(q)$ .

$$\# \left| \int dq \rho(q) e^{2\pi i q} \right|^2 + \int dq \int dq' \rho(q) \rho(q') \log |e^{2\pi i q} - e^{2\pi i q'}|$$

Solve by usual large  $N$  tricks. At  $T_d$ , eigenvalue density is

$$\rho(q) = 1 + \cos(2\pi q) \quad , \quad q : -1/2 \rightarrow 1/2$$

N.B. in 2-dim.'s, Gross, Witten, & Wadia found 3rd order transition in lattice  $\beta$ .

Here, at any temperature, find 3rd order transition when

$$\ell = \frac{1}{N} \text{tr } \mathbf{L} = \frac{1}{2}$$



# Gross-Witten-Wadia transition at $N=\infty$

Solution at  $N=\infty$ : “critical first order” transition - both first *and* second order

Latent heat *nonzero*  $\sim N^2$ . And specific heat diverges,  $C_v \sim 1/(T-T_c)^{3/5}$

Potential function of *all*  $\text{tr } \mathbf{L}^n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . But at  $T_d^+$ , only *first* loop is nonzero:

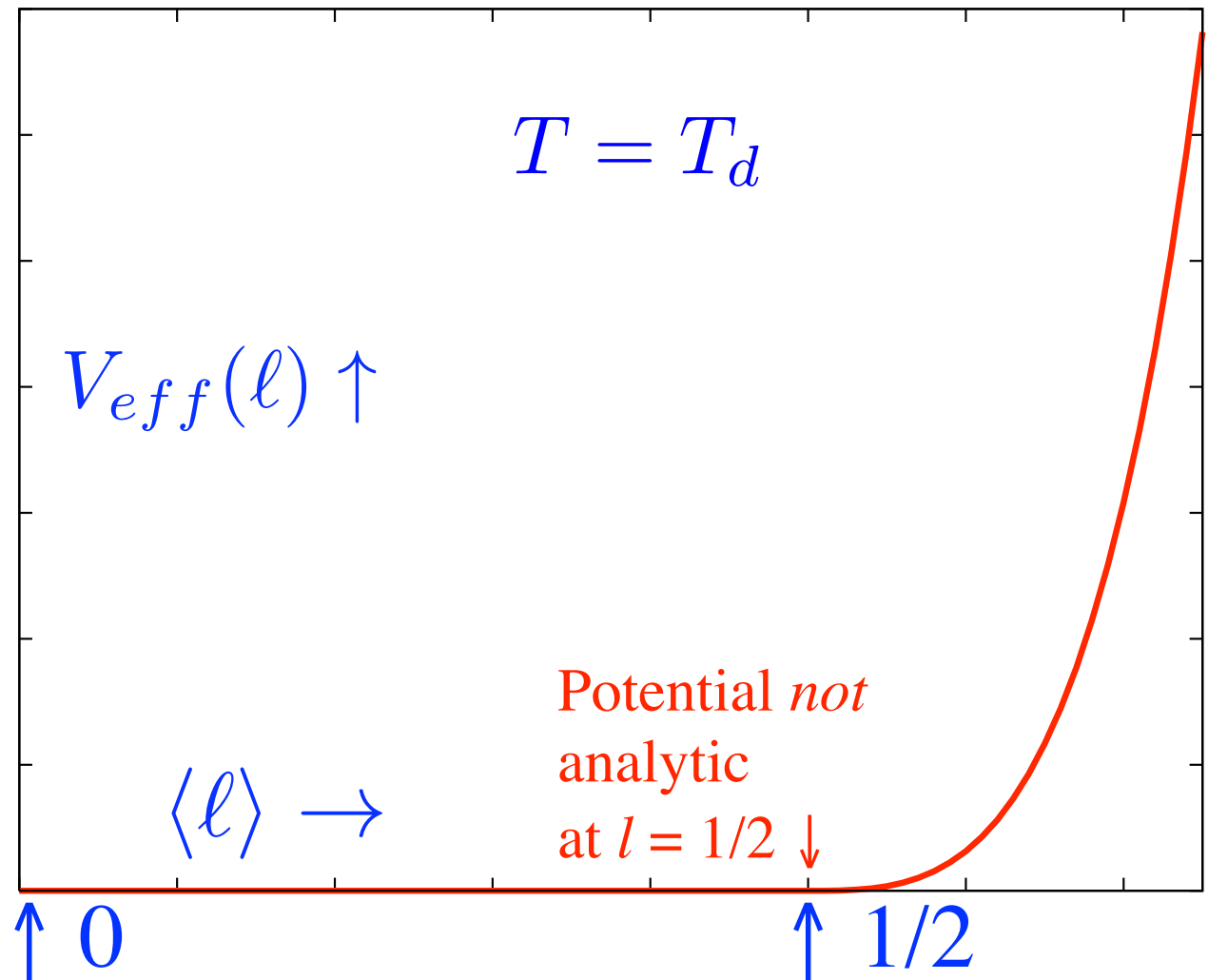
$$\ell = \frac{1}{N} \text{tr } \mathbf{L}$$

$$\ell(T_c^-) = 0$$

$$\ell(T_c^+) = \frac{1}{2}$$

But  $V_{\text{eff}}$  *flat* between them!

$$\text{tr } \mathbf{L}^n(T_d) = 0, n \geq 2$$



Above *only* for  $g=0$ : to  $\sim g^4$ , standard 1st order transition. So GWW curiosity?

# General matrix model, 3 colors

Remember model for three colors

Meisinger, Miller, & Ogilvie, ph/0108009.

A. Dumitru, Y. Guo, Y. Hidaka, C. Korthals-Altes & RDP, 1011.3820, 1205.0137;

K. Kashiwa, V. Skokov & RDP, 1205.0545; K. Kashiwa & RDP, 1301.5344.

*Simple ansatz: constant, diagonal  $A_0$ :*

$$A_0^{ij} = \frac{2\pi T}{g} q_i \delta^{ij}, \quad i, j = 1 \dots N$$

At 1-loop order, perturbative potential

$$V_{pert}(q) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} T^4 \left( -\frac{4}{15} (N^2 - 1) + \sum_{i,j} q_{ij}^2 (1 - q_{ij})^2 \right), \quad q_{ij} = |q_i - q_j|$$

Non-perturbative potential  $\sim T^2 T_d^2$ :

$$V_{non}(q) = \frac{2\pi^2}{3} T^2 T_d^2 \left( -\frac{c_1}{5} \sum_{i,j} q_{ij} (1 - q_{ij}) - c_2 \sum_{i,j} q_{ij}^2 (1 - q_{ij})^2 + \frac{4}{15} c_3 \right) + B T_d^4$$

# Matrix models at infinite N

Solve SU(N) at  $N=\infty$ : RDP & V. Skokov, 1206.1329; Nishimura, RDP, & Skokov, to appear  
Interface tensions: S. Lin, RDP, & V. Skokov, 1301.7432

$$V_{\text{eff}}(q) = d_1 V_1 + d_2 V_2$$

$$V_n(q) = \int dq \int dq' \rho(q) \rho(q') |q - q'|^n (1 - |q - q'|)^n$$

Take derivatives of equation of motion, at  $T_d$  solution

$$\rho(q) = 1 + \cos(2\pi q) \quad , \quad q : -1/2 \rightarrow 1/2$$

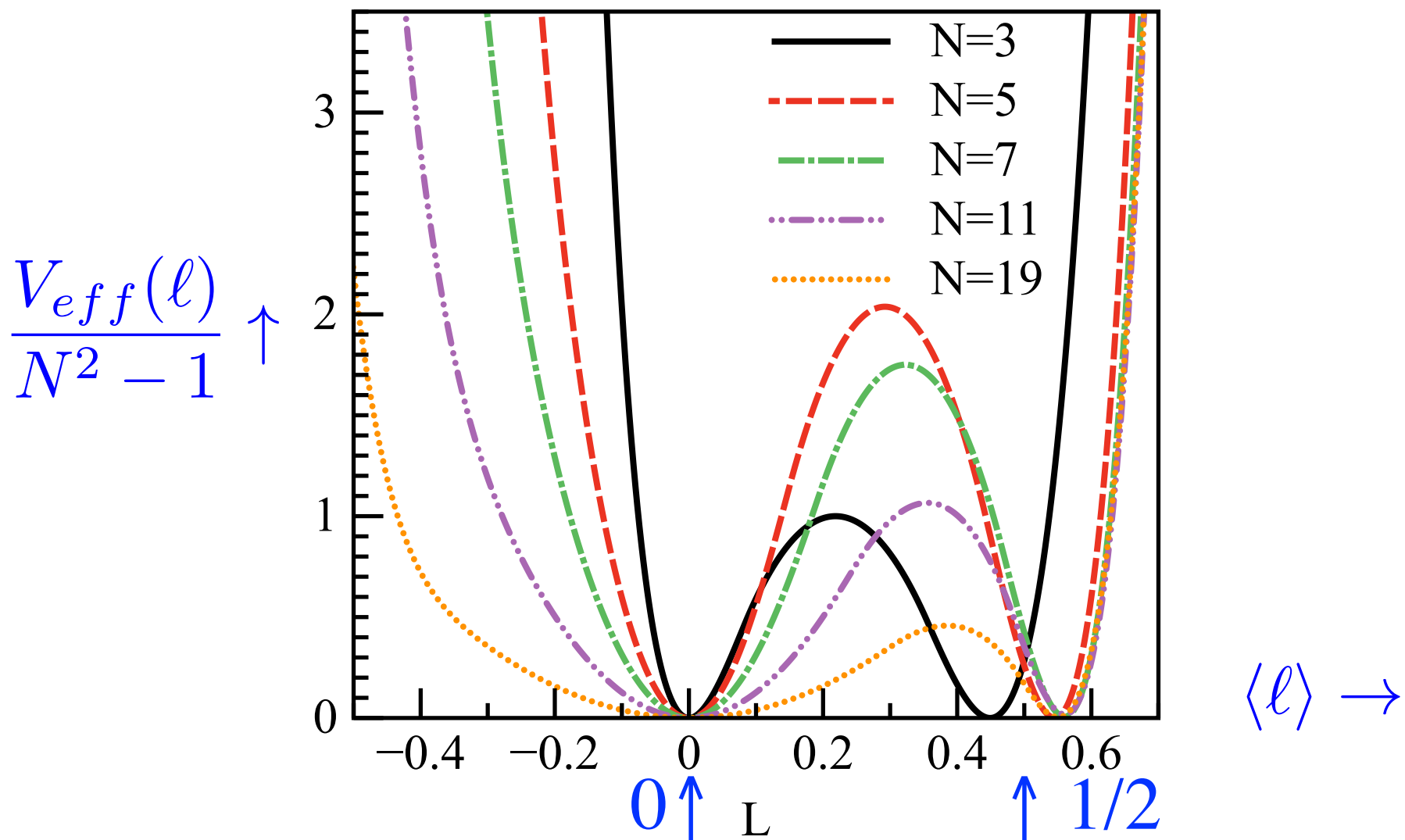
At  $T_d$ , solution *identical* to GWW model on a femtosphere!

Solution differs away from  $T_d$ . *But why same solution at  $T_d$ ?  $V_{\text{eff}}$  very different.*

*Is Gross-Witten-Wadia an infrared stable fixed point for pure gauge  $SU(\infty)$ ?*

# Remnants of Gross-Witten-Wadia at finite N?

At finite N, solve model numerically. Find two minima, at 0 and  $\sim 1/2$ .  
 Standard first order transition, with barrier & interface tension *nonzero*  
 Barrier disappears at infinite N: so interface tensions *vanish* at infinite N  
 Below: potential  $/(N^2-1)$ , versus  $\text{tr } \mathbf{L}$ .



# Signs of GWW at finite N: interface tensions *small* at $T_d$ ?

Consider maximum of previous figure, versus number of colors:  
increases by  $\sim 2$  from  $N = 3$  to 5, then *decreases* monotonically as  $N$  increases  
Perhaps: non-monotonic behavior of order-disorder interface tension with  $N$ ?  
Below: maximum in potential  $/(N^2-1)$ , versus  $\text{tr } \mathbf{L}$ .

Lattice: order-disorder  
interface tension  $\alpha^{\text{od}}$  at  $T_d$ :  
Lucini, Teper, Wegner, lat/0502003

$$\frac{\alpha^{\text{od}}}{N^2 T_d^3} = .014 - \frac{.10}{N^2}$$

Coefficients *small*,  $\chi^2$  large,  $\sim 2.8$ .  
*Non-monotonic* behavior of  $\alpha^{\text{od}}/N^2$ ?  
't Hooft loops also *small* near  $T_d$

Remnants of Gross-Witten-Wadia  
fixed point at finite  $N$ ?

